

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment Under Rule 116 is respectfully requested because it places the application into condition for allowance or into better form for appeal. No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this Amendment.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 14-21, 23 and 24 are pending in the application. Claims 5, 12, 13 and 22 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner.

Support for the amended claims can be found at page 7, lines 13-20 of the specification. No new issues are raised by the claim amendments because the Examiner has considered the uniformity of the light distribution at pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action of April 18, 2003.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1, 4, 6-11, 14-21, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification.

In the Office Action, the Examiner takes the position that the limitation "light reflected along an orthogonal direction to the liquid crystal display device is maximized" is not disclosed in the specification. This limitation however, has been amended to read that "light reflected along an orthogonal direction to the liquid crystal display device is uniform." This limitation is clearly supported by the specification. Applicant additionally notes that the word "orthogonal" can be

considered a synonym for the word “perpendicular.” Attached is a definition for “orthogonal” from Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

As a result, the amended claims are clearly supported by the specification. Accordingly, this rejection is overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) Over Shinji

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 14-21, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shinji (U.S. Patent No. 6,259,854). Applicant traverses.

Distinctions of the invention over Shinji have been placed before the Examiner. The Examiner relies on column 7, lines 5-13 of Shinji to assert that this reference teaches an angle between the lower surface and a surface connecting planar surface of the convex portions about 90°. Shinji, however, utterly fails and teaches away from the claimed limitation that the “light reflected along an orthogonal direction to the liquid crystal display device is uniform.” This is evident by a reading of the passage at column 7, lines 5-13 of Shinji, which is reproduced below:

When the pattern is rectangular (FIG. 5, $\delta=0^\circ$) or when the trapezoid slope angle is small (FIG. 6, $\delta=2^\circ$), the scattering reflection efficiency $\eta < 1$ and is bad even when $H/W \geq 0.6$. It is because there exists ray which is totally reflected by the rectangular edges AB, BC and CD when the pattern incident angle θ is large and which becomes propagating light again with the same angle with the incident angle to the pattern. Accordingly, a trapezoidal

pattern whose slope angle $\delta > 5^\circ$ is preferable in terms of the scattering reflection efficiency η .

What Shinji teaches, as a result, is that if the angle becomes rectangular, i.e., 90° , the efficiency of light propagation is so poor as to render the liquid crystal display of Shinji unusable. As a result, Shinji utterly fails to teach that at 90° the "light reflected along an orthogonal direction to the display panel is uniform."

Shinji thus fails to anticipate the claimed invention. Accordingly, this rejection is overcome.

Conclusion

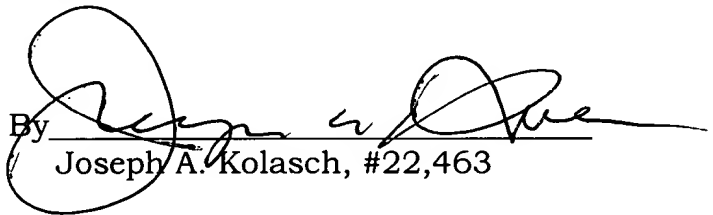
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 42,593) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Appl. No. 09/589,881

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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